

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

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R 241626Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8506

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3173

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GR TU

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF ASSISTANT SECY HARTMAN'S

ARRIVAL IN ATHENS

REF: ATHENS 3126

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: GREEK MORN PRESS APR 24 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO ARRIVAL ASST SECRETARY HARTMAN IN ATHENS PREVIOUS EVENING, AND OF STATEMENT BY EMBASSY SPOKESMAN CONCERNING THE VISIT. SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT HARTMAN WOULD BE MEETING WITH FONMIN BITSIOS AND THAT THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO ATTEMPT TO FURTHER THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE.

2. WITH RESPECT TO PRESS REPORTS THAT HARTMAN WAS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTERS OF GREECE AND TURKEY, THE STATEMENT SAID THAT WHILE THIS WOULD BE A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN HARTMAN'S VIEW, IT IS NOT THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP AND OBVIOUSLY ANY SUCH MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS WOULD DEPEND COMPLETELY UPON THEM OR THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVES TO ARRANGE. (BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: THIS CLARIFICATION WAS MADE AT REQUEST OF FONMIN BITSIOS.) END CONFIDENTIAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. MEANWHILE, PRESS TODAY REPORTED GOVT SOURCE AS STRESSING THAT THE GREEK GOVT IS NOT DISPOSED TO ACCEPT PRESSURES, BUT WEIGHS WHAT OUGHT TO BE DONE BY THE SOLE CRITERION OF GREEK NATIONAL INTERESTS. (COMMENT: THIS STATEMENT WAS OBVIOUSLY ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO PRESS REPORTS CLAIMING THAT "PRESSURE" WAS BEING EXERTED ON THE GOG WITH RESPECT TO VARIOUS FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.)

4. SAMPLING OF HEADLINES FROM TODAYS PRESS FOLLOWS:
"GREECE WILL ACCEPT NO PRESSURE WHATSOEVER STATES GOVERNMENT: TODAY TALKS IN ATHENS WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF KISSINGER" (AKROPOLIS); "THE BROADENING OF TALKS ON CYPRUS IS THE GOAL OF HARTMAN" (ELEFTHEROS KOSMOS); "PLAN FOR GREEK-TURKISH MEETING ADVANCED: KISSINGER ENVOY ARRIVED YESTERDAY FROM ANKARA" (TO VIMA); "MR HARTMAN ARRIVED IN ATHENS" (KATHIMERINI); "GREECE DOES NOT ACCEPT PRESSURES FROM A CARAMANLIS-DELMIEL MEETING IN BRUSSELS" (VRADYNI). END UNCLASSIFIED.
KUBISCH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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